

Task of Keeping the Country Dry Rests on John F. Kramer

Personality of the Man Who Promises Full Enforcement of Prohibition—Movement to Abolish Liquor Dates From Colonial Days

By JAMES B. MORROW.

ASKED if the law proscribing all beverages containing alcohol could, in his opinion, be enforced, John F. Kramer, the first prohibition commissioner ever to be appointed under the Government at Washington, moved to the edge of his chair, straightened up and began earnestly to talk.

"There is not a particle of doubt about it," he said. "The law will be obeyed in cities, large and small, and in villages, and where it is not obeyed it will be enforced. There are laws against theft and murder and yet men steal and kill one another."

"We look for violations of the liquor law and are getting ready to deal with such cases. Gradually, however, the violations will decrease in number and in two or three years prohibition will be permanently established in this country. "Once prohibition is fairly tested by a community it is approved and ceases to be a debatable question. My home is in Ohio. The people of Ohio are like those who live in the other States of the Union. Practically, we have had prohibition in Ohio since last May."

"No matter what may be said to the contrary, prohibition has been a success in my State and the sentiment for it is becoming stronger day by day. Cincinnati, once called a German city and always a brewing centre, will obey the national prohibition law, and so will the other large cities, including Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Chicago."

Law Will Be Respected.

"Liquor will be secretly sold at first and those who engage in that illegal traffic will be arrested and punished, but on the whole the law will be respected by the American people and the gloomy prophecies as to what is bound to happen will never come to pass. Such prophecies you must remember are part of the propaganda set in motion by those who are opposed to prohibition."

"We have been warned that many liquor drinkers will fly to drugs and that opium and other narcotics will take the place of alcohol. Such talk is nonsense. We are not going to be a nation of drug eaters any more than we are to become a nation of horse thieves or bank robbers."

"At heart, all Americans are prohibitionists of one sort or another. Even a distiller or a brewer would not relish having a drunkard in his family. It is this inherent conviction that alcohol is destructive on which we rely, more or less, as we face the work of enforcing the prohibition bill."

"In my opinion a great surprise awaits the American people. Instead of men dying when deprived of alcohol they will get a new lease on life. Instead of law breaking by wholesale there will be support of prohibition and the readjustment will not be long delayed."

"All that I have said," Mr. Kramer continued, "was simply to break ground for what I desire further to say about enforcing the new law. I wish to show that enforcement is not going to be the impossible task that many believe it will be. Yet the law will not automatically go into operation. There is a big job ahead and the machinery for doing it being put in place."

"We have decided that national prohibition shall go into force on Saturday, January 17. On that day, and thereafter, the manufacture, sale and transportation of liquor for beverage purposes will become unlawful. It will be unlawful in the forty-eight States of the Union, in all the villages and cities thereof, and on the mountain tops and in the valleys, inhabited or uninhabited. Also it will be unlawful everywhere in Alaska, Hawaii, Porto Rico and the Panama Canal Zone."

May Violate Two Laws.

"Forty-five of the forty-eight States ratified, by the votes of their legislatures, the prohibition amendment to the Constitution. That makes prohibition a part of the organic law of the nation."

"Most of the forty-five States have enacted laws on the subject of prohibition and Congress has enacted a national prohibition act. Therefore, the man who violates one law, may also violate a second law, in that he has done a thing forbidden by his State and by the nation."

"Three States, Rhode Island, Connecticut and New Jersey, rejected the prohibition amendment. In those States persons who manufacture, deal in or transport liquor will be arrested and prosecuted under the national law. The same procedure will be followed in those States that have not enacted prohibition laws of their own."

"In all other States local officials will be expected to enforce their own statutes. If they fail to do so, we shall enforce the great law of Congress. We shall make arrests and prosecute the cases before the United States courts."

"Now, if we went out club in hand and knocked violators down right and left and trampled them into the ground we should make trouble for ourselves as well as for others. Our purpose, I desire every one to understand, is to enforce the law. We shall do this with vigor and do it unceasingly."

"In the meantime, however, we hope to make observance of the law a natural procedure among the people. To that end we shall have a prohibition director in

each of the forty-eight States. He will be a man of standing among his fellow citizens and will be paid a salary of from \$3,000 to \$5,000 yearly."

"Helping him there will be a small staff of inspectors. The director in New York, for example, will have ten inspectors. Pennsylvania, also, will have ten. Ohio will have four."

"These men will constitute what may be called the educational branch of our work. They will go out among the people and explain the prohibition law. We shall instruct them to address boards of trade, chambers of commerce, labor unions, associations of citizens, schools, colleges, churches and Sunday schools."

Old Time Revenue Officers.

"They will be required to make the acquaintance of the leading men and women of all classes and particularly of editors and writers. Naturally, they will be cheerful and energetic and in sympathy with the law. Communities that are hostile to prohibition will be vigorously campaigned and the sentiment changed wherever possible."

"What can be termed the criminal branch of our work will be assigned to an entirely different type of men. The country, in that connection, has been divided into ten districts. There will be an experienced prohibition agent in each district and he will have as many assistants as will be required."

"The duty of these men will be to see that the law is obeyed. They will be the internal revenue investigators who have heretofore hunted for moonshiners in the South and violators of the liquor law in other parts of the country."

"They are seasoned men and men of courage and first-class ability. Some of them have had pistol battles with mountain outlaws and all of them are at home in any contest or circumstance. They will watch for bootleggers, home-brewers and crooked druggists and doctors. When necessary, all of them can be sent into a community that needs cleaning up."

"States that can not handle their own lawbreakers will be free at any time to call for the help of these men. Besides, we are assured that volunteer organizations in all parts of the country will give us their assistance."

"If officeholders show favoritism to the liquor classes and if good citizens will give us the facts in each case, we shall promptly take action ourselves. We shall have the men and the means to do so and the cowardly and criminal officeholders will be exposed."

"Never does the national Government show any tenderness of feeling toward those who violate the laws of Congress covering crimes. Nor does it ever forget. It watches and waits and years afterward, perhaps, gets the man it wants. We hope that few arrests and prosecutions will be necessary, but the public should know that we are prepared for all emergencies."

"The law says that liquor to be used as a beverage must not be manufactured. We shall see that it is not manufactured. Nor sold, nor given away, nor hauled in anything on the surface of the earth, or under the earth or in the air. It's a big job but it can be done."

Who Is John F. Kramer?

Every American understands that the President is obliged to put the laws of Congress into execution. This power and duty, in the main, is delegated to others. Collecting taxes on liquor, being a financial matter, was given into the hands of the Secretary of the Treasury and by him turned over to the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, who happens at this time to be Daniel C. Roper of South Carolina. It was Mr. Roper who chose John F. Kramer for the office of Prohibition Commissioner."

The parents of Mr. Kramer were members of the Evangelical Association, a branch of Methodism, organized by Jacob Albrecht, a German Lutheran, in Pennsylvania about the year 1790. John Kramer, as he is familiarly called by those who know him, was reared in the church of his father and mother. After his marriage and removal to Mansfield, he and his wife joined the Evangelical Lutheran Church. For many years he has been treasurer of the Wittenberg synod of that denomination and conspicuous otherwise as a layman."

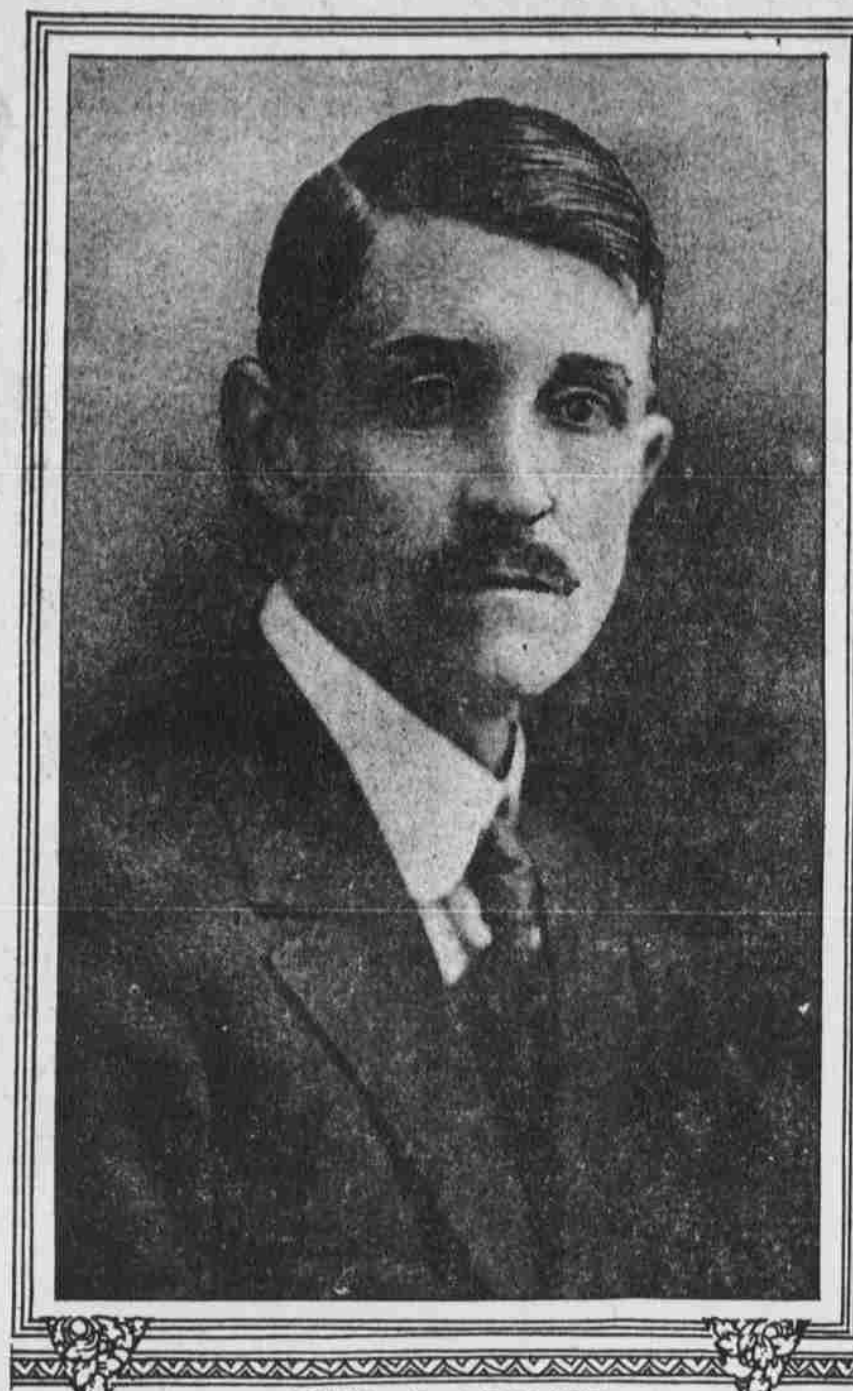
"I was born fifty years ago," he said to the writer, "on my father's farm, which was not far distant from Mansfield and in the same county. We had 100 acres of land at first and purchased sixty acres more as our family of ten children grew up and could help with the work."

"By trade, my father was a carpenter. He built houses and barns for our neighbors, but gave up that business during my boyhood. Being the eldest son, I looked after matters at home during his absence. I could do a man's work, almost, at the age of twelve."

Farm Laborer at Fifteen.

"When I was 15 years old I went to work for a neighbor. My wages were \$15 a month and my days fourteen hours long. In the winter I attended the district school. Lawyers I had noted were active men and highly respected in the community. They made speeches during political campaigns and were talked about favorably."

"So I decided to study law. After working for two years of eight months



JOHN F. KRAMER
HE WILL ENFORCE THE NATIONAL PROHIBITION LAW.

each as a farm laborer, I entered the Northern University at Ada. I taught school, after leaving college, in two or three villages of our county and then took the law course at the Ohio State University."

"My brief and inconspicuous political career began when I was elected, in 1911, a member of the Ohio Constitutional Convention. Two schools of men were sent to the convention—radicals and conservatives. I belonged to the latter. The debate on the liquor question lasted for three weeks. I had been a believer in prohibition from the age of twenty. Well, we got into the new constitution all of the wise temperance provisions that were possible at that juncture in public opinion."

Elected in "Wet" Town.

"Brewers and brewing companies were prohibited from owning retail liquor stores. Aliens were forbidden from engaging in the liquor business. No man could have more than one license. Dry territory was to remain so until the voters ordered the return of the saloons. Such were some of the main provisions of the new constitution and they were adopted by a vote of ninety-one to eighteen."

"On my return to Mansfield I was asked to be a candidate for the Legislature. Really, I was asked and asked by a great many voters, all of whom, of course, were Democrats. My record on the liquor question was fully understood. I had tried not to be a bigot and inasmuch as saloon keepers were licensed by the national Government and by the State of Ohio I took the ground that in selling liquor they were within their rights, so long as they obeyed the law regulating the traffic."

"But I advocated prohibition. I said that the making and the selling of liquor should be entirely stopped everywhere in the United States. Mansfield then was not a prohibition town. Nevertheless I was nominated for the Legislature and was successful at the polls."

"I served four years in the Legislature and was the Democratic floor leader during my second term. All temperance measures received my support. I had no unkind words for the saloon keepers, nor for the down and outers whom they first created and then kicked out of doors. "Prohibition on January 17 will be the law of the land. Let that be understood. No man has a right to violate the law. But if any man does violate it, he will find that he has declared war on the United States. And how long, do you suppose, will he remain in the fight? I would answer, off hand, that the time will be much shorter than he thinks."

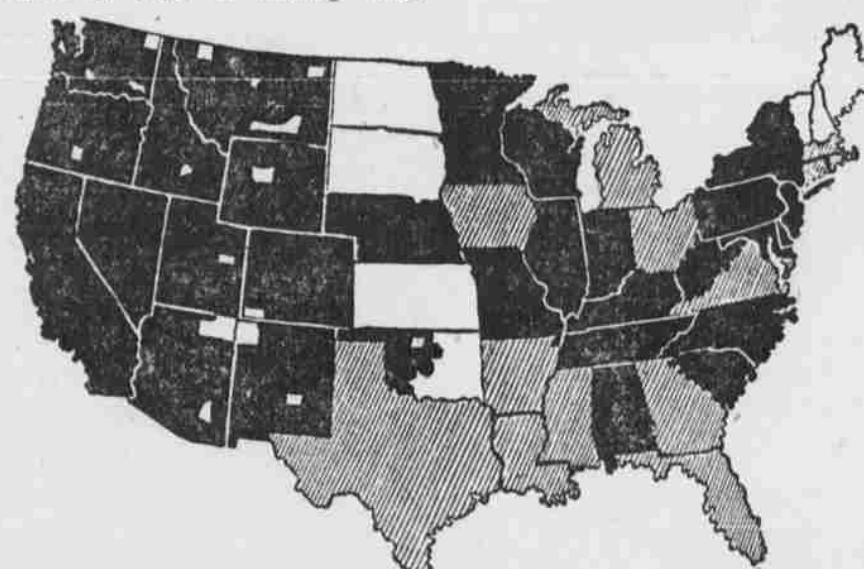
Two pertinent questions are being asked about prohibition, not only among ourselves, but also by those on the other side of the Atlantic, and on the other side of the Pacific for that matter: "How did it happen?" and "How will it work out?" For now that it has come most folks seem rather dazed over it."

Each Blames the Other.

The wets put all the blame on the Anti-Saloon League and its political manipulations, with the members of Congress and the various State Legislatures. Very decidedly the league people are being made the goat. But after all there are many interesting historical facts to support the statement that prohibition in the United States happened so gradually that the country itself was scarcely aware of the tremendous change that had been working in it for generations. In other words, as a matter of fact, the anti-saloon movement in America is almost as old as America itself."

Back in 1642 the Colony of Maryland passed the first law punishing drunkards by a fine of 100 pounds of tobacco. In 1648 the Indians in the valley of the St. Lawrence held a temperance meeting."

But in the early days prohibition made slow progress and the contrast between the bone-dryness of 1920 and the total wetness of the middle seveneenth century can not be more strongly accentuated than by recalling some measures aimed at reducing drunkenness in the Colonies. The Virginia Assembly in 1664 passed a law prohibiting ministers from giving themselves to excess in drinking. Later



WET and DRY MAP of the UNITED STATES
by STATES, JAN. 1, 1898.
WHITE - PROHIBITION
SHADED - LOCAL OPTION
BLACK - LICENSE TERRITORY.

Maryland forbade more than one gallon of liquor to be sold to any Indian in one day. About this time the Quakers became disturbed over drunkenness at funerals; but Congress thought it right and advisable to allow a ration of one-half a pint of spirits and a quart of beer to the navy!"

The First Legislation.

From 1805 until 1919 the battle between the wet and dry elements has been waged most vigorously and incessantly, first in townships, second in municipalities, next in the State itself, and finally as a national issue. For a while the temperance movement was confined to church organizations, but in 1833 we find the first record of legislation when the State of Georgia gave the right of local option to the inferior courts of two counties. The first temperance society in America was organized in 1789 by 200 farmers of Litchfield, Conn."

The first State wide prohibition measure became effective in 1851 when Maine adopted the famous "Maine law" which was the model dry law for many States which followed her example."

From the earliest times many of our prominent public men and several Presidents have been in favor of temperance if not actual prohibition. Abraham Lincoln gave an impetus to the movement when he joined the Sons of Temperance at Springfield in 1831 and later when as President-elect he refused to "treat" the national committee sent to inform him of his nomination and returned unopened the presents of wine and whiskey which were sent to him."

The passage by Congress of the prohibition amendment is by no means the first time our national legislators have enacted laws in reference to the drinking of spirits. As far back as 1802 Congress passed a law providing that the President shall take steps to prevent the traffic in liquor with the Indians. Two years later another act was passed pro-

viding that an equivalent of malt liquors or wine might be substituted for spirits in the army at certain seasons of the year, in order to promote the health of the soldiers."

Again in 1831 Congress gave the soldiers the right to draw coffee and sugar instead of the spirit ration. In 1862 it did away entirely with this ration in the navy. In 1884 it prohibited the importation of intoxicating liquors into Alaska. Two years later it enacted that instruction concerning the effects of alcoholic liquors shall be given in the schools of the District of Columbia, in the military and naval academies, and in all other schools."

Woman's Christian Temperance Union began in Hillsboro, Ohio. A forward step was taken when the scientific side of the alcohol question was given consideration and when the Woman's Christian Temperance Union gained access to the public schools with its scientific temperance teaching."

The inception of the Anti-Saloon League is said to have come about in this way. About twenty-five years ago Archbishop Ireland of the Catholic Church and Dr. Kynett of the Methodist Church met one day on a railway train between Chicago and Philadelphia, and discussed the temperance question and agreed upon

pieces of the league carried the crusade into the State Legislatures and secured the passage of laws which would enable voters to decide whether or not they should have saloons in their townships, cities and counties and finally in their States."

Big business next began to recognize alcohol as a cause of industrial accidents and inefficiency and a menace to the life of employees. Social agencies realizing that much dependency had its root in alcoholism entered the crusade against it. Insurance companies by their actuarial figures showing the percentage of deaths due to alcohol gave increased momentum to the economic and social movement against it."

In 1890 President Corbin of the Reading Railroad ordered the discharge of all employees who frequented drinking places. The next year the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad discharged employees who signed a petition for saloonkeepers for license. At this time the liquor forces thoroughly aroused over the unmistakable trend of public opinion held an anti-prohibition convention in Wisconsin, and in the same year the first world note was struck when the W. C. T. U. gathered women from all parts of the globe for an international meeting in Boston. In the meantime many States and cities had adopted a high-license system which was at first considered an effectual curb upon liquor abuses, but in 1892 the Methodist Episcopal Church condemned this system because it failed to produce the results its proponents had predicted for it."

Enters Election Fights.

The Anti-Saloon League was founded at Oberlin, Ohio, in 1895, and from that day forward the question became one of dry politics versus saloon controlled politics. The Anti-Saloon League, while forming branches in almost every State in the Union, and cooperating with other agencies in bringing the problem before the people as a matter of social and civic morality, aided them to make it a dominating factor in elections, and to secure laws which gave them a right to vote on the question."

The history of prohibition for twenty-five years between 1893 and 1918 shows a succession of victories for the drys. The map of December 1, 1893, shows only a few scattered dry or white States, and a few shaded States in which the people had a right of local referendum on the liquor question but black or wet area predominated."

In 1917, before the United States entered the war, 87.8 per cent. of the area of the nation was under no license and only 12.2 per cent. was under license. At this time 60.7 per cent. of the people were living in dry territory which they themselves had made dry by the referendum vote or by State legislative enactment. Only 39.3 per cent. were living in wet territory. Fifty per cent. more people were living in dry territory than in wet territory before the war began, when there was no question of war prohibition or the need of closing the distilleries and breweries to save grain for the Allies."

Arnold's Steel Formula

(Continued from Seventh Page.)

us, is the result of a patented formula in which molybdenum figures. Molybdenum, as ordinarily obtained from the ore, is a dark bluish powder with a very high melting point. Four years ago, so the Bureau of Mines expert announced, "the use of molybdenum in high speed tool steels is being generally discontinued." And various reasons were assigned for the abandonment of the alloy. Just the same, at that time the United States Geological Survey reported that molybdenum was apparently used much more by steel makers abroad than here, and German buyers were busy acquiring all available supplies of the alloy a few months before the beginning of the war."

Arnold Formula Known Here.

Latterly, however, native metallurgists, prodded by their past experience and spurred on by growing practices among the makers of special steels in Europe, have accomplished notable things through the agency of molybdenum. It is stated positively that Prof. Arnold's formula has been known to our experts for some while, and again invention would seem to be centered for the most part in a variation of the percentage of the prime alloy, molybdenum."

"Liberty metal," which was evolved to help us to the forefront in aviation, owes some of its desirable characteristics to its molybdenum content. This alloy fits the steel to meet the stresses set up in the fast moving parts of automobile and airplane engines, such as crankshafts, propeller shafts, connecting rods, &c. Again molybdenum steel, so-called, answers admirably for gun barrels, wire, boiler plates, armor piercing shells, magnets, &c."

It seems that tempering has a much more energetic action in molybdenum steel than in carbon steels. Molybdenum increases the elongation and elastic limit of the metal. By the addition of 0.25 per cent. of molybdenum the elongation has been increased from 4 per cent. up to 45 per cent. The addition of small quantities of molybdenum to nickel steels augments their resistance to blows without proportionately diminishing their elongation."

The advantage in using molybdenum instead of tungsten in a high speed steel is that it gives all the desirable qualities to the metal, with the added gain that the carbon content is kept below 1 per cent., the hardness and brittleness of tungsten

high speed steels being thus avoided. Further, one part of molybdenum will do the alloying work of three times the quantity of tungsten."

Whatever may be the particular merits of Prof. Arnold's supersteel—and it is probably limited in its field of application—his invention serves to bring out the fact that the chemist, the microscope and the metallurgical laboratory had conjointly made it possible to evolve a great variety of steels susceptible of many uses. Thus, by the skillful employment of carefully tested alloys and recourse to heat treatments of one sort or another, it is entirely practicable to impart to the fundamental substance, iron, properties of a unique and valuable nature."

It has been only within the last three decades that momentous developments have been made in the manufacture of alloy steels and in their heat treatments. For a long time quantity production was limited by dependence upon crucible furnaces—the individual crucibles permitting of the melting of about a hundred pounds at the most. The advent of the electric furnace, however, has radically changed this aspect of the industry, and, besides, has made it practicable not only to deal with larger amounts at a time, but enables the metallurgist to control his melts to a nicety."

Seal Furnaces Hermetically.

That is to say, the electric furnace can be hermetically sealed and the molten mass thus held away from the action of the air—oxygen in the poured steel being one of the promoting factors in producing defects in the form of blowholes and other internal cavities. Finally, electrical temperature registering instruments permit the furnaceman to know exactly how hot his melt is, and he can hold that mass at a desired heat while he further purifies the steel or brings up its constituents to an exact analysis which will insure a metal having definitely prescribed qualities."

Happily for us, if molybdenum is to prove of revolutionary importance in the manufacture of so-called "supersteel" or any other superlative steel which genius may give us, nature has been especially generous in storing underground here in the United States some of the largest if not very largest deposits of molybdenum in the world. These, so it seems, prevail chiefly in northern California, Colorado and Oregon. Last year our mines yielded 800,000 pounds of this substance."